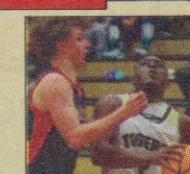


INSIDE

Basketball season underway at Elba High School



"Serving Elba and Coffee County for more than 125 Years!"
Est. 1897

INSIDE

Elba's Class of '66 meets for Breakfast



The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 30

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, December 14, 2023

1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

CCSO Deputies make drug possession arrests

Deputies with the Coffee County Sheriff's Office made several drug possession arrests over the past week.

According to Coffee County Jail records, Christian Freeman, age 34, of Enterprise, Ala., was arrested Tuesday, Dec. 5, and charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$5,000 bond], possession of marijuana - 2nd degree [\$2,500 bond], and obstructing justice using a false identity [\$5,000 bond]. He was booked into the jail at 9:33 p.m. that evening.

As of press time this week, jail records showed that Freeman remained incarcerated.

On Wednesday, Dec. 6, Coffee County deputies made two separate drug-related arrests.

Jail records show Angela Cooper, age 33, of Enterprise, was arrested and booked into the county jail at 3:36 p.m. for possession of a controlled substance [\$5,000 bond] and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia [\$3,000 bond].

Stanford remained in the county jail as of press time this week.

Also, on Wednesday, Dec. 6, deputies arrested Jodie Johnson, age 44, of Elba, Ala., and he was charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$5,000 bond]. He was booked into the county jail at 3:47 p.m. last Wednesday.

As of press time this week, jail records showed that Johnson remained in the county jail.

On Friday, Dec. 8, David Flowers, age 47, of Glenwood, Ala., was arrested by Coffee County deputies. He was charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$5,000 bond] and was booked into the jail at 4:45 p.m. that day.

Just under 24-hours later, jail records show that Flowers was released on bond Saturday, Dec. 9, at 3:45 p.m.

Tuesday morning, Dec. 12, Coffee County deputies arrested Roy Stanford, age 36, of New Brockton, Ala. He was charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$15,000 bond], possession of marijuana - 2nd degree [\$6,000 bond], and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia [\$3,000 bond].

Stanford remained in the county jail as of press time this week.

Superintendent Chris Moseley said in keeping with tradition of honoring students for their accomplishments, both academic and in sports, he wanted to give special recognition to the high school volleyball team.

The team made it to the Elite 8 tournament for Class 1A.

"We are extremely proud of them, Coach Mularz, and all they were able to accomplish," Moseley said.

"We are losing three seniors from this team, but I think our program is headed in the right direction."

The superintendent also extended congratulations to Coach Marc Sieving and the high school football team for making it to the semifinals of the Class 1A state playoffs. While it ended one game sooner than everyone had hoped for this year, Moseley said the football players and coaches should be commended for a great season in 2023.

Looking ahead to January,

Kinston Cheerleaders bring home two State Champ awards from competition



The Kinston Bulldogs Cheerleading Squad competed Monday, Dec. 11, in the state cheer championships held in Birmingham, Ala., and the Class 1A squad brought home two state championships. The squad won Game Day State Champions and Traditional State Champions in their division. The cheerleaders and coaches are pictured above with their two championship trophies. They are: (front row, l to r) seniors Ella Cooper - Co-Captain; Baylee Smith - Captain, and Brianna Hall; (middle row, l to r) Coach Connie Hawthorne, Jorja Beth Wilson, Laken White, Molly Kate Weeks, Lexi Bradley, and Coach Presley Bracke; and (back row, l to r) Aubrey Tew, Paisley Clark, Madisyn Andress, Emma Brown, Bella Lashley, and Coach Erika Whigham.

"Journey to The Savior" presented by Zion Chapel Baptist Church



Hundreds visited the Zion Chapel Baptist Church presentation of "Journey to The Savior" - a drive-through living Nativity, which was held last Friday night, Dec. 8, and Saturday night, Dec. 9, from 6-8 p.m. each night. Ten scenes were used to tell the story of the birth of Jesus. There was no charge to visit this presentation. Sam Self, pastor of Basin Baptist Church of Elba, said his and wife, Adele, drove through to see the presentation, and he remarked that it was "wonderfully done" by the Zion Chapel Baptist congregation. He said he could tell a lot of thought and planning had gone into this to make it successful. Above is a scene from last weekend's living nativity presentation.

Elba High volleyball team recognized at BOE meeting

The Elba Board of Education met Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 12, and recognition of the high school volleyball team highlighted the meeting.

Superintendent Chris Moseley said in keeping with tradition of honoring students for their accomplishments, both academic and in sports, he wanted to give special recognition to the high school volleyball team.

The team made it to the Elite 8 tournament for Class 1A.

"We are extremely proud of them, Coach Mularz, and all they were able to accomplish," Moseley said.

"We are losing three seniors from this team, but I think our program is headed in the right direction."

The superintendent also extended congratulations to Coach Marc Sieving and the high school football team for making it to the semifinals of the Class 1A state playoffs. While it ended one game sooner than everyone had hoped for this year, Moseley said the football players and coaches should be commended for a great season in 2023.

Looking ahead to January,

Local school board leaders advance in AASP Academy

Local school board members from Southeast Alabama were among the honorees at the Alabama Association of School Boards' awards luncheon held Friday, Dec. 1, at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel.

In all, 35 local school board members from AASB District 3 - included in 303 school board members statewide - were recognized for advancing in the School Board Member Academy, AASB's training program for school board members.

The education leaders were honored for their commitment to ongoing professional development to deepen their understanding of education issues and strengthen their boardmanship and leadership skills.

Coffee County garbage pickup will be affected by upcoming holidays

During the Coffee County Commission meeting held Monday morning, Dec. 11, environmental services coordinator Mike Thornton issued a reminder to county residents regarding garbage collection services for the upcoming holidays.

Thornton said the county landfill would be closed both Mondays, Dec. 25th and Jan. 1st. Therefore, he said there would be no residential garbage pickup for either of those days. Instead, he said the county's garbage collection for both those weeks would shift to the right by one day for all customers.

For example: Normal Monday pickup will be held on Tuesday; normal Tuesday pickup will be held on Wednesday, normal Wednesday pickup will be on Thursday, and so on for the remainder of the week. The shift applies to both the week of Dec. 25th and Jan. 1st.

Also, during the meeting county administrator Rod Morgan reminded all that county offices [generally open five days per week] would be closed Friday, Dec. 22, in observance of Christmas Eve, and closed Monday, Dec. 25, for Christmas Day.

County offices also will be closed Monday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day.

NOTICE:

The Elba Clipper will feature "Dear Santa Letters" in the Thursday, Dec. 21, edition of the paper.

The office will be closed Monday, Dec. 25, for Christmas Day and Monday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"No one reads a small-town newspaper to find out what happened; they read the paper to find out who got caught."

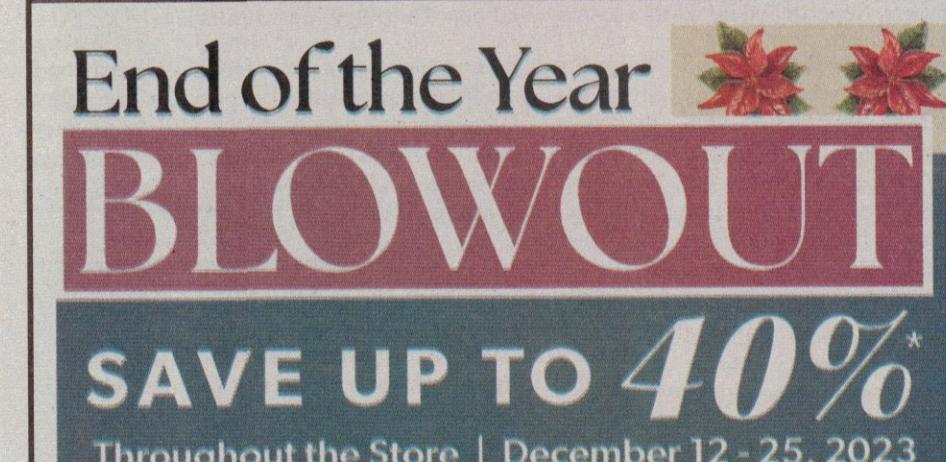
By the time this edition of The Elba Clipper is delivered, most readers of this column will have already heard that the author, Ferrin Cox, left his home in an ambulance last Thursday.

We are pleased to report that he is recovering well from his medical emergency, but opted to take a pass at writing "Brainstorms" this week. Since there have been very few weeks in the past 60 years when he exercised that privilege, we thought he had earned the break.

His children are eternally grateful for all who came to his aid last week, especially Chris Thigpen, who happened to drive by at the right time and stopped to provide immediate aid. Thank you also to the many who responded when Chris alerted first responders.

Thank you also to Linda Hodge, who has stepped up in ways large and small to make sure The Clipper continues to function, and to all who've given her an extra hand. It will be no surprise to anyone who knows "Mr. Ferrin" well that his first concerns last week were for the newspaper.

The full story will be his to tell in a future column, but until then, we could not forego the opportunity to express our appreciation. The very best thing about Elba is the residents who love and care for each other, and we've seen that love in action again in the last week.



\$699
\$999.95 SAVE: \$300

Hayes
Sofa | 122050
Chair - \$599 | 122062

Everyday Deal
Excluded From Additional Discounts

\$298
Queen Bed | 995.99
3 Pc Queen Bedroom Set - \$798 | 880756
Includes Queen Bed, Dresser & Mirror

King Bed - \$498 | 894398
3 Pc King Bedroom Set - \$998 | 880757
Includes King Bed, Dresser & Mirror

246 FACTORY AVENUE
ELBA, AL
334-853-0191
Located on the Courthouse Square

Badcock
HOME FURNITURE
& more.

**Have at least
14
fewer reasons
to worry**

**Stay current
on COVID, Flu
& Childhood
Vaccinations**

Visit alabamaunites.com
to locate a vaccine

The Elba Clipper
USPS 171-080
is published every Thursday by The Elba Clipper,
417 W. Buford St., Elba, Alabama 36323
Publication Postage paid at Elba, Alabama 36323

Postmaster: Send Address Changes To:
The Elba Clipper, P.O. Box 677, Elba, AL 36323-0677

Copyright - All Rights Reserved
TELEPHONE (334) 897-2823 or fax (334) 897-3434
e-mail clipper@troyable.net

John Ferrin Cox - PUBLISHER
Linda Hodge - EDITOR
Ricky Mularz - SPORTS

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax
6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

Get medical attention if symptoms of hypothermia occur

The milder climate of Alabama in winter may mask the need to be aware of hypothermia, a medical emergency that can lead to death.

Hypothermia occurs when the body's core temperature falls below 95 degrees F, just a few degrees less than the normal body temperature.

When exposed to cold, human bodies begin to lose heat faster than it can be produced.

Provisional data for 2022 from the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) Center for Health Statistics show there were 18 deaths of Alabama residents from hypothermia in 2022, an increase in number from the 10 deaths in 2021.

To prevent hypothermia, stay warm, keep well informed and take extra precautions during times of extremely

cold weather. Everyone should remember to lower the risks of cold-weather health problems by dressing in multiple layers to help retain body heat, limit time outdoors, and remove wet clothing immediately.

ADPH cautions that hypothermia makes people unable to think clearly or move well. This makes hypothermia especially dangerous, because a person may not know when it is occurring and then will not be able to do anything about it.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), victims of hypothermia are often:

- Older adults with inadequate food, clothing or heating

Babies sleeping in cold bedrooms

- People who remain outdoors for long periods—the unhouse, hikers, hunters and others
- People who drink alcohol or use illicit drugs.

As the body ages, the ability to maintain a constant internal temperature decreases.

Hypothermia risk is even greater when an older person has a chronic condition that affects the circulatory or neurologic systems, or the thyroid. When the core temperature falls, bodily functions shut down.

Knowing what to do in cold weather can help prevent hypothermia. To provide protection, living quarters for

- Very low energy

Immediate medical attention is needed if a person's temperature falls below 95 degrees F, the CDC advises. If unable to get medical help right away, try to warm the person up.

- Get the person into a warm room or shelter.

- Remove any wet clothing the person is wearing.

- Warm the center of the person's body—chest, neck, head, and groin—using an electric blanket, if available. You can also use skin-to-skin contact under loose, dry layers of blankets, clothing, towels, or sheets.

- Warm drinks can help increase body temperature, but do not give alcoholic drinks. Do not try to give beverages to an unconscious person.

- After body temperature has increased, keep the person dry and wrap their body, including their head and neck, in a warm blanket.

- Get the person proper medical attention as soon as possible.

A person with severe hypothermia may be unconscious and may not seem to have a pulse or to be breathing. If this happens, handle the person gently, and get emergency assistance immediately.

Perform CPR, even if the person appears dead. CPR should continue until the person responds or medical aid becomes available. Keep warming the person while performing CPR. In some cases, hypothermia victims who appear to have died can be successfully resuscitated.

The CDC lists the following signs and symptoms of hypothermia:

Adults:

- Shivering

- Exhaustion or feeling very tired

- Confusion

- Fumbling hands

- Memory loss

- Slurred speech

- Drowsiness

Babies:

- Bright red, cold skin

Cuzin Lou Lou's Tales from Yonder

Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

It's a big week for Sister, it daily.

Lou Lou and Sister ventured off for a little overnight get-away last weekend to celebrate the upcoming birthday, and even though they got a later-than-expected start to the trip due to Lou Lou needing to work late, it still was a nice change of pace for them both. The trip did prove that even when it comes to sleeping conditions, however, Lou Lou and Sister are as different as night and day.

The room they acquired came with a king size, which meant sharing. When the two woke up the next morning, Sister immediately expressed her dislike of the bed. She noted it was "hard as a rock" and that had caused her back to hurt. As she continued discussing her dislike of the bed, she noticed that Lou Lou was staying quiet...upon question as to what Lou Lou's thoughts were, well, Sister did not like the response.

"Actually, I thought it was a comfortable bed," Lou Lou said.

Sister could not believe what she was hearing!

"The problem is," Lou Lou continued, "you like a soft mattress whereas I prefer a firm mattress. The mattress on that bed is very firm. It slept great to me!"

Sister was not happy, but she did have to admit that Lou Lou was correct.

"Even in how we sleep, we differ," Lou Lou laughed.

The two are definitely different as night and day, but Lou Lou wouldn't trade Sister for anything. She hopes Sister has enjoyed her birthday week, and Lou Lou wishes her many, many more!

Maybe next time, though, Lou Lou will pick a bed with more comfortable bedding for Sister...it would certainly make the following day more pleasant for all if Sister is 'well-rested' and happy!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

NOTICE:

**City of Elba offices will be closed
Monday, Dec. 25, and Tuesday, Dec. 26, for Christmas.**
The garbage truck will still run its normal routes on these days.
MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

Governor Ivey awards funds to help assist low-income families with heating and cooling costs

Governor Kay Ivey awarded more than \$46 million in grants to 18 community service agencies that provide emergency assistance to help low-income households cover the costs of staying warm during the winter and cool during the summer.

"High energy bills can be overwhelming for families that are already struggling to meet their basic needs," Gov. Ivey said. "These grants will help low-income Alabama residents weather the cold winter ahead as well as the hot summer months to come."

The community agencies accept applications at the local level from residents seeking help through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs is administering the grants from funds made available by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"Adequate heating and cooling are essential to any household, particularly for the elderly and other vulnerable populations," ADECA Director Kenneth Boswell said. "ADECA joins Gov. Ivey in support of these community agencies that provide relief to those in need."

Locally, the Southeast Alabama Community Action Partnership Inc. received \$2.43 million benefitting Barbour, Coffee, Geneva, Henry, and Houston counties.

Beyond that, Chief Arnett reported routine business for the police department.

Making the holiday season dementia-friendly

With the holiday season in full swing, the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) is offering tips to help the millions of Americans caring for a loved one with dementia celebrate the holidays with their loved one in a dementia-friendly manner.

"People with dementia can still, and should be encouraged to, enjoy and participate in the spirit of the holiday season. Because of the way dementia-related illnesses impact the brain, they may not be able to do it exactly as they did prior to the onset of dementia," said Jennifer Reeder, LCSW, AFA's Director of Educational and Social Services. "By being adaptable and sensitive to the person's needs and wishes, caregivers can help create a joyous, dementia-friendly holiday season for their loved one with dementia."

AFA offers these dos and don'ts for creating a dementia-friendly holiday season:

Do: Keep decorations simple. Decorating is part of the holiday season fun, however, too much stimulation may be challenging for someone with dementia. Keep decorations festive, but simple. Instead of elaborate decorations, choose a few favorite items. Phase in decorations over a period of days so that changes to the person's environment are less confusing.

Don't: Overdecorate or use dangerous decorations. Too many flickering lights or noisy items could overwhelm someone living with dementia. Changes to the person's environment might cause disorientation, which may then lead to wandering. Be aware of safety issues: fragile decorations can shatter into sharp fragments and decorations that look like food or candy could be mistaken for edible treats, creating a choking or dental hazard.

Do: Adapt past favorite traditions or create new and viable ones. Build on old traditions when appropriate, such as enjoying favorite music or movies, or looking at pictures of past holiday celebrations. Adapt past traditions as well; if the person always sent out holiday cards or baked holiday cookies and still wants to do so, do it together with them. If they can no longer shop for gifts for their loved ones, invite them to help with wrapping the gifts so that they feel involved. Start new traditions that center on activities and events the person enjoys and can do, such as touring neighborhood holiday lights; plan to do it together. Whenever

recent burglary case where the Guns R Us store in Elba had been burglarized. Arnett said an arrest had been made in that case. He commended officers on a job well done to get that case solved.

Beyond that, Chief Arnett reported routine business for the police department.

the Do's and Don'ts

possible, ask what traditions are important to your loved one—it keeps them engaged, and helps you prioritize and plan appropriately.

Don't: Dwell on past practices. Take a strengths-based and person-centered approach and incorporate what the person can do and what they choose to do now, rather than dwelling on what they used to do. Focus on those things that bring joy and let go of activities that seem too stressful. It is normal to feel some sadness about changes and losses, especially during a holiday. Acknowledge these feelings and then move on to new ways to celebrate.

Do: Create a safe and calm space. Create a space where your loved one can sit comfortably during a holiday gathering, and where guests can visit in small groups or one-to-one. To the greatest extent possible, maintain the person's normal routine when scheduling visits or holiday gatherings; disruptions in routine can be difficult for someone living with dementia.

Don't: Neglect safety. Be very mindful of potential tripping hazards on the floor, such as wires for decorations, as dementia can cause changes in vision, depth perception, and gait. Securely hook Christmas trees to the wall to avoid falls and use menorahs or kinaras with electric candles to reduce fire hazards.

Alzheimer's disease, which is the most common form of dementia, affects more than 6.2 million Americans. The number of people in the US with Alzheimer's disease is expected to more than double by 2060, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The AFA Helpline is available seven days a week to help provide additional information about creating dementia-friendly holidays or any other caregiving questions. Connect with a licensed social worker by phone (866-232-8484), webchat (www.alzfdn.org) or text message (646-586-5283). The web chat and text message features can serve individuals in more than 90 different languages.

Horizon Vault & Monument Company, Inc.

Caring service when it matters the most

P.O. Box 678
1614 County Road 359
Elba, AL 36323
(334) 897-8300

Locally Owned & Operated by Heath and Jessica Wyrasdick

ELBA | ENTERPRISE

Coleman
FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORIAL
Coleman & Sowell Memorial & Vault
~ Complete Cemetery Work ~

2 Locations:
2011 Hickman Ave - Elba
701 Daleville Ave - Enterprise
PRE-NEED FUNERAL &
MONUMENT AVAILABLE
334-897-2705 or
334-393-6583

Ask Heath
Heath Wyrasdick, Funeral Director/Embalmer
Hayes Funeral Home
Our Family Serving Your Family Since 1934

How to Plan for Seasonal Grief

If you've ever lost a loved one, you know grief can come in cycles. Certain events - your loved one's birthday, an anniversary, a favorite holiday, a certain time of the year - can be all it takes to unleash a huge wave of grief.

You can't always stop this wave from coming; if you know that certain seasons are hard on you, though, you can prepare yourself to cope.

One suggestion is to lean into your memories, rather than trying to suppress them, actively seek to honor and share them. For example, if your family is having a big holiday gathering, make your deceased loved one's favorite dish for everyone to share, and invite loved ones to voice favorite memories.

Be proactive in taking care of yourself, physically and emotionally. Take some time to get outside and walk each day. Sunlight and fresh air can be good mood boosters. And be sure to eat and sleep properly.

Express your feelings of intensified grief, even if it's just by writing them down in a journal.

More than anything, avoid isolating yourself. Seek out the close friends and loved ones in whom you can confide. Don't shy away from family gatherings, even if you know they will bring some sadness. Try to stay close to the people you love, and the people you know will support and encourage you.

Finally, consider creating some kind of a memory box or memento with which you can honor your lost loved one - remembering their life and legacy even in a busy time of the year.

Grief can be very cyclical, and some dates on the calendar may fill you with apprehension - but with these steps, you can meet that apprehension head-on.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225

Southeast Insurance Inc.

Established 1993 • Service with Experience

Don't get caught without coverage...

We Have the Insurance You Need!

- Home
- Auto
- Commercial
- Life
- Church
- Boat
- ATV
- Motorcycle

and Much More!

Call or Go Online for A Quote!
Southeast Insurance, Inc.
P.O. Box 560 • Elba, AL 36323

Phone: (334) 897-3431
Website: southeastinsuranceinc.com
Email: RKYoung4@aol.com

Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

DIANE BRAGG MACON

Mrs. Diane Bragg Macon, age 72, of Kinston, Ala., died Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023, at Medical Center Enterprise in Enterprise, Ala.

Funeral services were held from Hayes Funeral Home Chapel on Friday, Dec. 8, 2023, at 2 p.m., with Rev. Shirley Hatcher officiating. Committal services followed in the Evergreen Cemetery.

Survivors include her husband: Paul Macon, Kinston; daughter: Heather (Scott) Lawless; son: Paul (Michele) Macon Jr., Kinston; granddaughters: Courtney (Barney) McCrummen, and Brooke Maccon, both of Kinston, Cassy

Cooper, Buford, SC, and Caitlin Cooper, Charleston, SC; grandsons: Joe (Calle) Parrish, Elba, and Alan Cooper; great-granddaughters: Ollie Mae McCrummen, and Mary McCrummen, both of Kinston, and Clara Belle Parrish, Elba.

Graveside

services were held Thursday, Dec. 1, 2023, from the Zion Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Derek Snellgrove officiating.

Survivors include daughters: Cathi Fallin, Kinston, Ala., Cindy (Jerry) Pergrim, Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; son: Wade Fallin, Atlantic Beach, Fla.; and a brother: Bobby Ray (Peggy) Strickland, Tallahassee, Fla.; along with five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Graveside

services were held Thursday, Dec. 1, 2023, from the Zion Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Derek Snellgrove officiating.

Survivors include

husband: Paul Macon,

Kinston;

daughter: Heather

(Scott)

Lawless;

son: Paul

(Michele)

Macon Jr.,

Kinston;

granddaughters:

Courtney

(Barney)

McCrummen,

and Brooke

Maccon,

both of Kinston, Cassy

Cooper, Buford, SC, and

Caitlin

Cooper, Charleston, SC;

grandsons: Joe (Calle)

Parrish, Elba, and

Alan

Cooper;

great-granddaughters:

Ollie

Mae

McCrummen,

and Mary

McCrummen,

both of Kinston, and

Clara

Belle

Parrish, Elba.

Survivors include

husband: Paul Macon,

Kinston;

daughter: Heather

(Scott)

Lawless;

son: Paul

(Michele)

Macon Jr.,

Kinston;

granddaughters:

Courtney

(Barney)

McCrummen,

and Brooke

Maccon,

both of Kinston, Cassy

Cooper, Buford, SC, and

Caitlin

Cooper, Charleston, SC;

grandsons: Joe (Calle)

Parrish, Elba, and

Alan

Cooper;

great-granddaughters:

Ollie

Mae

McCrummen,

and Mary

McCrummen,

both of Kinston, and

Clara

Belle

Parrish, Elba.

Survivors include

husband: Paul Macon,

Kinston;

daughter: Heather

(Scott)

Lawless;

son: Paul

(Michele)

Macon Jr.,

Kinston;

granddaughters:

CHURCH & AREA NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Kit Johnson, Pastor
First Baptist Church Elba

"A Charlie Brown Christmas"

I came across the following article on a friend's Facebook page. I was unable to locate the original author, but I felt compelled to share the back story to one of our favorite Christmas classics. I was personally encouraged by Charles Schulz's faith, and I believe you will be as well.

I pray we are all as committed to proclaiming the gospel as he, especially this time of year. Enjoy!

In 1965, Charles Schulz, a devout Christian and creator of the Peanuts comic strip, was asked to create a Christmas special for CBS featuring the Peanuts Characters. He agreed with one requirement that they allow him to include the story of the birth of Jesus. Although the station's executives were hesitant and tried to convince him otherwise, Schulz was insistent. As a result, for the past 50 plus years, millions of people have watched and "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and heard the story of Jesus and what Christmas is all about.

It wasn't until a few years back that I realized a "hidden message" in the film. Linus is a child who seems to have some insecurities as he carries a security blanket with him at all times. In fact, Linus NEVER drops his blanket, except once....

While sharing the message of "what Christmas is all about," Linus drops his blanket at the exact moment he says the words, "fear not!"

In this seemingly innocent moment, Linus delivers a powerful reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. We are to "fear not", for Jesus is born. We needn't rely on material things for security, we have God with us, "Immanuel", (Matthew 1:23) Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior - the true meaning of Christmas.

While back, someone informed me, indignantly so, that Linus picks up his blanket at the end of the speech so my interpretation must be wrong. Well, he was right, Linus does pick up his blanket at the end of his speech. However, he "drops" it again later...

Amid big, bright, colorful, shiny artificial trees, Charlie Brown chose the least of these, a little, wooden tree with just a few branches. Shortly thereafter, Linus uses his blanket to wrap about the base of the tree and says, "Maybe it just needs a little love." In that moment, the tree "awakens", stands tall and firm. A reminder that no matter who we are, how many mistakes we've made, a "little love" can make all the difference.

Let's strive to "fear not" (Luke 2:10) and "love one another" (John 13:34), not just at Christmastime, but the whole year through."

Celebrate
The Birth Of Christ

Bob Bush, DVM
Veterinary Express of Lake Martin
Small Animal Medicine & Surgery
334-343-0408
Intersection of Claxton Ave & Simmons St
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Upcoming Elba Clinics: Jan 3rd & Jan 17th

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIGHT OF MEN

ABOUNDING GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Rocky Pearce, Pastor
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.

ABU E CHURCH SAMSON, AL
Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Service . . . 7:00 p.m.

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

BETHEL AME CHURCH
Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Study . . . 6:30 p.m.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Class . . . 6:30 p.m.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH
Greg Cotter, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train . . . 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:30 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH
Mike Smith, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH
Remonia Smith, Pastor
Church Service . . . 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Even. Services . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 7:00 p.m.

ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Services . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
Lowell Martin, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

HAWTHORN BAPTIST CHURCH
Larry Mills, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night . . . 7:00 p.m.

HARRIS TEMPLE COGIC OF GOD
K.H. Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

HEBRAW BAPTIST CHURCH
Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Services . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

HEBRAW BAPTIST CHURCH
Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Services . . . 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.



The children of First Baptist Church Elba presented their Christmas program last Sunday evening, Dec. 10.

Jacks Bane (left) is pictured here singing a solo in the program as others members of the children's choir look on.

First Baptist Church Elba offers special worship opportunities during December

First Baptist Church Elba Christmas Eve Communion will have several special services during the month of December to celebrate the birth of Christ.

The adult Christmas cantata will be Sunday, Dec. 17, at 5 p.m.

The church also will host a

Damascus Baptist Church invites all enjoy Dec. 17th Christmas cantata

The choir of Damascus Baptist Church will perform its Christmas cantata on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 6:30 p.m.

"The Living Gift" will be a 25-minute Christmas

program. All are invited to come enjoy this special music program in celebration of the birth of Christ.

Damascus Baptist Church

is located at 774 County Rd. 547, Elba, Ala.

Become an ADULT FOSTER CARE Provider

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
1-800-458-7214
dhr.alabama.gov/AFC

"Love Never Ages"

Church Directory

HOLY TEMPLE COGIC

Glenwood, AL
Sunday Prayer . . . 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

1ST ASSEMBLY OF GOD - Kinston

Danny Bradshaw, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:15 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

FaITH CHAPEL

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor

Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Elba Clipper

P.O. Box 677 Elba, AL 36323

TO PLACE AN

AD

CALL 334-897-2823

FAX 334-897-3434

e-mail clipper@troycable.net

DEADLINE

The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear.

COST

Only \$500 per week (first 15 words)
*Additional words 20¢ each

HELP
WANTED

LOVE AND COMFORT CARE LLC needs a compassionate caregiver. Hourly rates, experience needed. **Weekends**, Saturday night 10:00 p.m. until 6 a.m.; Sunday 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. Contact number is 334 282-4408

12/7/2pd

WANTED

ROOMMATE WANTED. Female. Non-Sexual. No Pets. One Child. Maybe. Call Curtis (334) 820-6472.

12/14-41-pd.

SERVICES

BAKERS TREE SERVICE AND STUMP REMOVAL. 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE FREE Estimates. Call 897-2271 after 6:00 p.m. t/c

SELLING a RV, Tractor or Golf Cart? ADVERTISE STATEWIDE or by region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just \$210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Ala-SCAN newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - no payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 833-449-1307.

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR! We edit, print and distribute your work internationally. We do the work... You reap the rewards! Call for a FREE Author's Submission Kit: 888-283-4780

LONG DISTANCE MOVING: Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Speak to a Relocation Specialist, call 844-925-3534

We reserve the right to edit or refuse any ad at any time

ERRORS

We strive to prevent errors in your ad, but any corrections necessary must be made immediately after first publication to insure proper credit.

PAYMENT

is by cash, check, credit card or 30-day charge with approved credit.

COST

Only \$500 per week (first 15 words)
*Additional words 20¢ each

SALES AND SERVICE

Parts, Parts, Parts
Lawn Mowers,
Chainsaws, ATVs, Etc.

Repair Replacement Parts
for most all your outdoor power equipment needs...
Belts, Blades, Chains, Bar,
Filter, Spark Plugs

REPAIR SALES & SERVICE

Give Us a Call
334-897-5168

New Phone Number
(334) 282-6942

Randy's Small Motors
Elba, AL
1/12-tfc-chg

HEALTH/ BEAUTY

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 844-322-9935.

ATTENTION: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - \$99 + FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 866-505-0828.

EDUCATION

ATTENTION ACTIVE DUTY & MILITARY VETERANS! Begin a new career and earn your Degree at CTI! Online Computer & Medical training available for Veterans & Families! To learn more, call 866-475-1014 (M-F 8am-6pm ET).

AUTOMOTIVE

SUPPORT THE BLIND! Donate a car to the American Council of the Blind. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24-hour response. Running or not. maximum tax deduction and no emission test required! Call 24/7: 844-601-1342.

AUTO INSURANCE from \$29 month Free 2-minute Quote! We Compare all Insurance providers offers for you! Lowest Rates! Call Now 866-450-0943



Need a Christmas Gift?
How About a Subscription to The Elba Clipper!
Call (334) 897-2823

Small Ads Work!!
Call Us!
(334) 897-2823

FOR SALE

DirecTV Satellite TV Service Starting at \$59.99/month! Free Installation! 160+ channels available. Call Now to Get the Most Sports & Entertainment on TV! 844-594-7108

NEED NEW Flooring? Call Empire Today to schedule a Free in-home estimate on Carpeting and Flooring. Call Today! 1-888-381-0916.

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional Installation. Top quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: 844-809-9165. Ask about our specials!

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-683-2005

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase* Call 1-[PHONE] today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Safe Step North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-871-6175

METAL ROOFS Completely Installed \$4750* Siding/Windows 40% Off. LIMITED TIME. Factory Warranty. Free Estimates Credit cards accepted. SR/Military discounts *1500 sq ft CALL NOW !! 800-664-4856

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're waiving all installation costs!

(Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 Call 1-877-205-0836

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material - steel from Erie Metal Roofs!

Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - up to 50% off installation + Additional 10%

off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders). Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-833-955-3163



The Grinch and Buddy the Elf visited Elba City Hall on Monday, Dec. 4th. They are pictured above with City of Elba office employees Cara Horstead and Sandra Berry, and Elba Electric Department employee Blake Johnson.

LEGAL NOTICES:

Public Notices also are posted on the websites: www.elba-clipper.com and www.alabamapublicnotices.com at no extra charge

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of Charles N. Locklear, Deceased.

COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

Case No.: PR-2023-217
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

In the Matter of the Estate of KEITH MARTIN BISHOP, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-213

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to David Locklear, Personal Representative, on the 1st day of December, 2023 by the Honorable Jodee Thompson, Probate Judge for Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

DONE this the 1st day of December, 2023.

/s/ Jodee Thompson
Jodee Thompson, Probate Judge
12/7/14&21-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of Keith Martin Bishop, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-213

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters of Administration for the Estate of Keith Martin Bishop having been granted to Sue A. Smith, Personal Representative, on the 27th day of November, 2023 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge for Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

DONE this the 1st day of December, 2023.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge
12/7/14&21-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of Olen W. Brown, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-216

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters of Administration for the Estate of Olen W. Brown, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-216

CASE NO. PC 2023-084

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKEN NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to CASEY JAMES BURRIL, as Personal Representative of the estate of Bert Arthur Burril, deceased on the 24th day of September, 2023, by the Honorable Judge of Probate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

DONE this the 1st day of December, 2023.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge
12/7/14&21-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of Eric Brown, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-216

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters of Administration for the Estate of Eric Brown, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-216

CASE NO. PC 2023-084

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKEN NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to JODEE R. THOMPSON, Probate Judge for Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

DONE this the 1st day of December, 2023.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge
12/7/14&21-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of James Speigner, Deceased.

Case No.: PR-2023-206

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to Anthony Scott Speigner, Personal Representative, on the 13th day of November, 2023 by the Honorable Jodee Thompson, Probate Judge for Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

DONE this the 13th day of November, 2023.

/s/ Jodee Thompson
Jodee Thompson, Probate Judge
12/7/14&21-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

In the Matter of the Estate of Adam Heath Cooper, Deceased.

CASE NO. 2023-183

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to Mary Ann Cooper, Administratrix on the 1st day of December, 2023, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate Court of Coffee County Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

DONE this the 1st day of December, 2023.

/s/ Jodee Thompson
Jodee Thompson, Probate Judge
12/7/14&21-pd.

Mary Ann Cooper

12/14, 21&28-pd.

SPORTS NEWS

Views From The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

We headed out for a little Christmas shopping over the weekend and bought just that – a little! We did get in our share of walking and spent some money, but didn't really get anything we were looking for and after eight hours came home with sore feet and aching backs. I hate to even think about buying anything online. However, it may be the way we get things done this year.

For what it is worth....

*** *The Elba Tigers are already the surprise team in the area as they hit the basketball court just three days after their final football game and in just one week have already posted two wins at home. The Tigers had a hard time scoring in a season opening loss and still haven't locked in on the basket, but are playing hard and fast, and in a Friday win over Pike Lib rallied from a 20-point halftime deficit to win in overtime. I'm sure the Tigers will have nights when they simply can't shoot well enough to win. However, as long as they play hard they will always have a shot at posting wins. This may be a fun season after all! As for the Lady Tigers, the Elba girls rolled to three lopsided wins last week to improve their record to 4-1 and aren't even anywhere close to being at mid-season form. The Lady Tigers made the 'Final 4' a year ago and this season have a goal to win a state title, and if they keep improving will no doubt be a team to watch for other 1A teams across the state.*

*** *The high school basketball season is now at full speed and it looks like a fun season ahead for everyone in the area. On the boys' side, Zion Chapel and Brantley have made a lot of noise with early-season winning streaks, while New Brockton appears to have its best team in years and Kinston is slowly settling in to another new coach and beginning to hang some wins on its side of the board. Over with the girls, New Brockton is off to a fast start and many believe the Lady Gamecocks have a shot at making history, while Kinston is off to a fast start and may be a team to watch in the 1A ranks; Brantley is young, but knows how to win and will only get better and better; and, Zion Chapel will no doubt keep working hard and once it starts to win may just surprise some folks. Yep, we have a fun season ahead!*

*** *The adoption of the 'Name, Image, Likeness' financial package in college sports has forever changed the sports world as we knew it, and now it looks like NIL may soon be coming to high school sports in Alabama. A representative in the Alabama legislature last week filed a bill that would allow high school athletes in the state to make money off their name and image. The bill is limited to the athlete and would not allow the use of such items as school logos, school names, school mascot or logo of an athletic association. It is reported that 30 states already have an NIL rule in place, and the state legislator that filed the bill stated that since most high school athletes would never make it to the professional level, it would give high school athletes a chance to get compensated for their skills and talents. I have to agree that what he says does make sense, but it is still a slippery slope in college athletics and is really scary at the high school level.*

*** *Alabama making the college playoffs* may still be big news to the Tide fans across the state and nation. However, the biggest college news locally came from just up the road last week with the announcement that popular head football coach John Sumrall had resigned to accept the head job at Tulane. I didn't even know the successful Trojan coach was looking to make a move after winning back-to-back conference championships, but found out he was a finalist for the job at Duke and had interviewed at Mississippi State before being picked to lead the Green Wave. It seems that university officials at Troy reportedly offered Sumrall a five-year contract worth at least \$7 million and promised major improvements to facilities, including an indoor practice field. However, published reports from New Orleans reported the now ex-Trojan coach will sign a six-year contract worth around \$15 million, will make facility upgrades and fill the coffers in regards to NIL funds. Trojan fans loved their former coach and should be thankful to the success he helped bring to the program. However, to me it looks like Coach Sumrall may be a coach that is more concerned about his bank account than being loyal to a school, and will always be on the lookout for another place that will open the checkbook even wider.

*** *In closing....* Elba fans were left shaking their heads and wondering what could have been after Leroy claimed the 1A state title last week with a win over Coosa Christian. All Tiger fans are still convinced the best team didn't win in the semifinals down at Leroy, but will just have to be content with the team's 13-1 record and all the positive statewide publicity it brought to the town.

Business of the Month:
Elba Travel Center
Follow the Chamber ...

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND SECTION 8
ELBA
Housing Authority
1207 North Claxton Avenue • Elba, AL 36323
(334) 897-2737 • www.elbahousing.org

In opening week action

Tigers claim two big wins at home

The Elba Tigers bounced back from a season opening loss on the road to close the week with two straight home court wins to post a 2-1 record in their opening week of high school basketball action.

Following is a recap of last week's three games:

Ariton 55 Elba 8

The Elba Tigers had a problem finding their way to the goal in the first half and never recovered in a 55-34 season opening loss to the Ariton Purple Cats, at Ariton.

Elba managed only six points in the first quarter and seven in the second quarter as Ariton raced out to a 29-13 halftime advantage, and while the Tigers did warm up from the floor in the second half it was too little, too late, as the Purple cats never lost command and posted the 55-34 win.

Cody Gray scored 8 points to lead Elba, while Cameron Gray, Jamal Siler and Emmanuel Cooks all added 6 points, Ty Sieving scored 5, Alvin Henderson 2 and Jacob Watkins 1.

Ian Senn scored 21 points and Matt McNair added 11 to lead Ariton.

Elba 55 Goshen 44

The Elba Tigers posted their first win of the young season by knocking off the Goshen Eagles, at the Elba gym.

The score was tied at 11-11 after one quarter. However, the Tigers outscored the Eagles 18-8 in the second quarter to open up a 29-19 halftime

Lady Tigers roll to three wins

The Elba Lady Tigers tipped off regular season play last week and made a statement to all future opponents as they rolled to three impressive wins to up their record to 4-1.

Following is a recap of last week's action:

Elba 54 Ariton 27

The Elba Lady Tigers took command midway through the opening quarter and slowly pulled away to claim a solid 54-27 road win over the Ariton Purple Cats.

The Lady Tigers stretched a 17-9 first quarter lead to 28-12 by the end of the half, and then took complete command in the third quarter and pushed their advantage to 45-18 as they claimed the big win.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 18 points and Kendra Juarez added 14 to spark Elba, while Tajah Purvis added 6, Ana Caldwell 5, Sydney Siler 3, Brooke Tinsley 3, Ny'Asia McCollough 3 and Ayrika Caldwell 2.

Elba 60 Goshen 17

The Elba Lady Tigers overcame a sluggish start to post a lopsided 60-17 home court win over the Goshen Lady Eagles.

Elba owned a slim 6-4

Elba Tiger JV claims first win

The Elba Tiger junior varsity opened its basketball season last week with three games and bounced back after two losses to close the week's action with a big win at home.

The Tigers tipped off the season at Ariton and dropped a 41-37 overtime decision to the Purple Cats. Scoring for the Tiger were Johnathan Edwards 13, Javante Griggs 10, Easton McKelvy 7, Ryan Schindler 5, Matthew McCart 5, Levi Martin 3, Earl Tolentino 3, Ledell Ousley 3, and Skylar Mitchell 2.

The Tigers hosted the Goshen Eagles in their first home game of the season and came out on the short end of a 40-26 final score. Scoring for the Tigers were Javante Griggs 9, Jordan Hammonds 6, Levi Martin 5, Mattheus McCart 4 and Skylar Mitchell 2.

The Elba Housing Authority does not discriminate because of race, color, national origin, sex, perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, religion, familial status, or disability. Elba Housing Authority has handicapped accessible units.

advantage, and then poured in 20 points in the third quarter to stretch their lead to 49-26 and coasted in with the big win.

Cameron Gray scored 11 points and Jamal Siler added 10 points and 11 rebounds to spark the Tigers, while Alvin Henderson scored 9 points, Ty Sieving 7, Cody Gray 6, Jacob Watkins 6, Emmanuel Cooks 4 and Brady Johnson 2.

Jamari McClure scored 12 points to lead the Eagles.

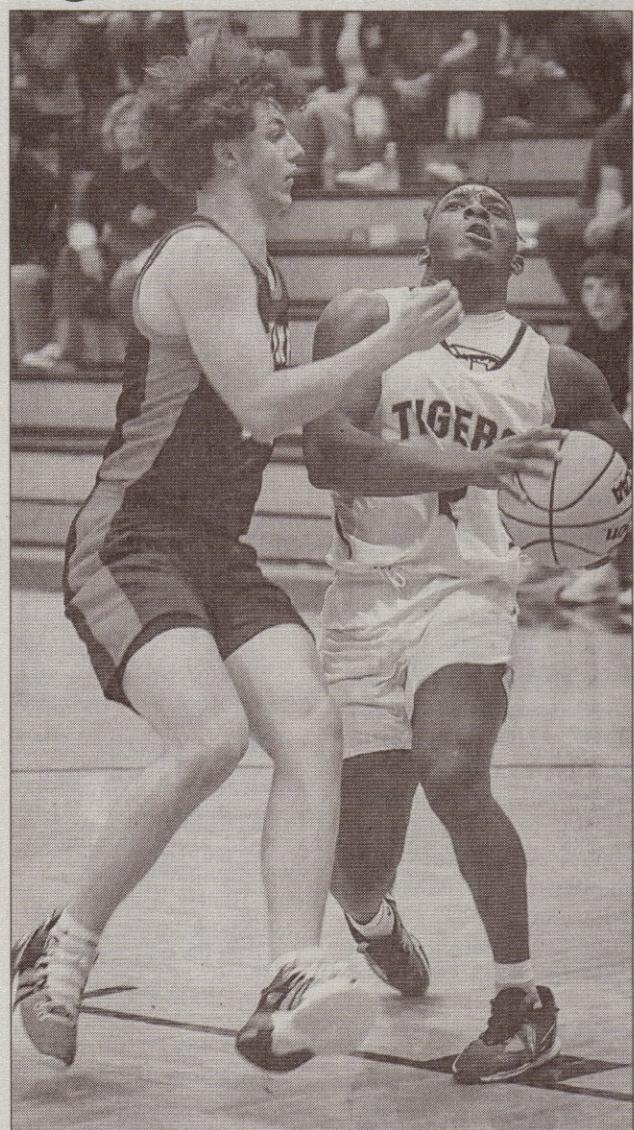
Elba 65 Pike Lib 64

The Elba Tigers staged a furious second half rally to send the game into overtime and then capped the comeback in the extra period to sneak past the Pike Lib Patriots, at Elba gym.

Elba came out cold from the floor in the first half and trailed 33-13 at intermission, but scorched the nets for 26 points in the third quarter to pull within 44-39, and then caught the Patriots in the third quarter at 60-60 to force an extra period. The Tigers jumped out to a quick 64-60 lead in the four-minute stanza and never trailed as they held on to claim the exciting 65-64 win.

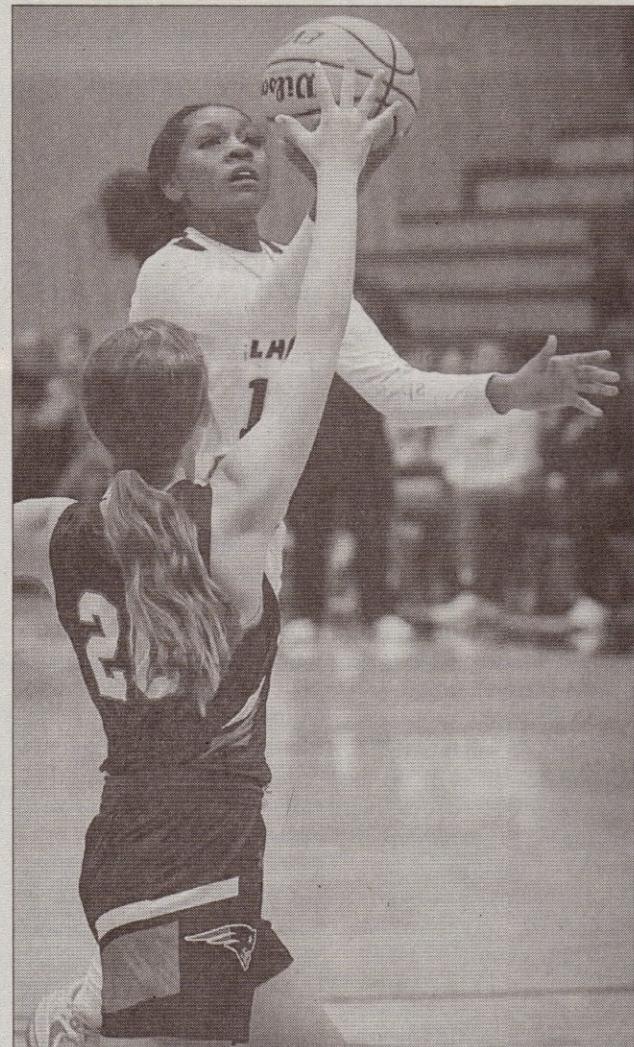
Alvin Henderson scored 24 points and Cody Gray added 13 to lead Elba, while Jamal Siler added 9, Jacob Watkins 8, Cameron Gray 7, Brady Johnson 2 and Ty Sieving 2.

Will Rice scored 17 points to lead the Patriots, while Jackson Mitchell added 17 and Sawyer Keck scored 14.



Elba Tiger Alvin Henderson (2) finds his path to the goal blocked by a Pike Lib defender. Henderson scored 24 points to spark a comeback win over the Patriots last week, in Elba.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)



Elba Lady Tiger A'Lyric Whitfield (in white) drives to the basket in last week's win over Pike Lib. Whitfield scored in double digits in all three Lady Tigers wins last week.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

Terry Spicer Heating and Cooling

Plumbing and Electric

Phone: (334) 494-3091

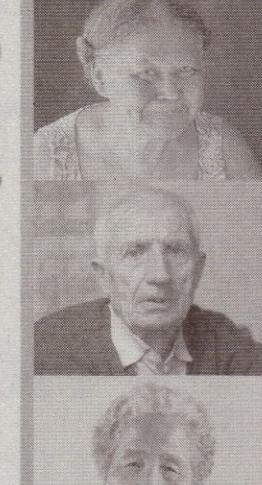
Elba, AL

AL# 17103

STOP Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Submit a report to the
Alabama Department of Human Resources
Adult Protective Services Division

1-800-458-7214
aps@dhr.alabama.gov



SPORTS NEWS



Elba Tiger Alex Wisecup (3) etched his name in the AHSAA record book with an outstanding senior season with the Tigers.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

Over 43,000 football fans attend 'Super 7' prep championships

The 2023 AHSAA Super 7 State Football Championships totaled 43,014 for the seven boys' football championship contests and two girls' flag football finals played at Bryant-Denny Stadium on the University of Alabama campus.

"We want to thank the University of Alabama and the city of Tuscaloosa and Northport for what they do to make the Super 7 experience so special for our schools and our communities," said Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) Executive Director Alvin Briggs.

"The Super 7 has become such an important event in the lives of our student-athletes thanks to our opportunity to play in such special venues like Tuscaloosa, Auburn, and Birmingham. This year was very special and lifelong memory for our student-athletes, coaches, schools, and communities."

Total attendance was 43,014 with Friday's attendance topping the week with 17,911 for the 2A, 4A and 6A championship games. Wednesday's total, which included the for the



NOTICE

**City Privilege Licenses
are due**

**January 1, 2024
and delinquent
February 1, 2024**

Penalties will be assessed if license is not purchased prior to February 1.

For further information or to purchase a license, please contact Sandra Berry at (334) 897-2333.

**City of Elba, AL
Sally Bane, City Clerk**

Henderson and Wisecup enter names in AHSAA record book after banner season

While the Elba Tigers were disappointed in closing the high school football season with a 13-1 record after a loss in the Class 1A semifinals, it was still a record-breaking season for at least two Tigers as junior, running back, Alvin Henderson broke or tied six state records, while senior, placekicker Alex Wisecup added his name to the record book in four categories.

Henderson, one of the nation's highest recruited juniors, set records for yards rushing in a season with 3,523; rushing touchdowns in a season with 61; points scored in a season with 402; total touchdowns scored in a season with 68; and consecutive games played with a touchdown with 26. He also moved into a tie for non-passing touchdowns scored in a season with 67.

With one season left in high school, the Elba Tiger standout is closing in on a number of more records. He has 7,274 career rushing yards, which ranks 11th in state history, 2,565 yards behind the state record; has scored 141 career touchdowns, which ranks third only 19 td's behind the record; has scored 132 career rushing touchdowns, 13 td's short of the record; and, has scored a total of 846 career points, which is only 82 points shy of the record.

"Alvin is obviously a very talented young man and we appreciate everything he has done for the team this year and during his career here at Elba High," said Elba Tiger head coach Marc Sieving. "It is a true accomplishment to set a state record and he has almost re-written the book in three years. While I am certainly proud of his accomplishments on the football field, I am also proud of the leader he has



Elba Tiger Alvin Henderson (2) broke a number of AHSAA state records during the 2023 high school football season and moved near the top in numerous others while leading the Tigers to a 13-1 record.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

become on the team and the hard work he has put in. He has been a humble person in any honor he has received, and we are just so proud of him and proud to call him an Elba Tiger."

Wisecup, one of the top placekickers all-time in Elba Tiger history, ranks second in the state record books with 93 extra-points in a season; ranks seventh in the record books with 105 points scored in a season; ranks seventh with 198 extra-points in a career; and, ranks 11th all-time with 219 career points scored.

"Alex has been such a big part of our team in recent years and he has done so much on his own

to become a standout kicking the football," added Coach Sieving.

"It is a big difference in kicking a soccer ball and a football, and Alex has put in countless hours working to get better and played a huge role in our success. He is an outstanding kicker and an outstanding person."

High School HOOP HIGHLIGHTS

BOYS:

New Brockton 63 Goshen 45

The New Brockton Gamecocks added a win last week with an exciting 63-45 victory over the Goshen Eagles. Baylor Foster scored 21 points to lead the Gamecocks, while Anthony Silar added 13, Josiah Peterson added 11 and Yassiah Rousseau scored 10.

Brantley 73 McKenzie 69

The Brantley Bulldogs had to battle for all four quarters to claim a 73-69 win over the McKenzie Tigers. Jayden Parks scored 35 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and handed out 5 assists to lead the Bulldogs, while Daylan Davis added 10 points and Janyies Tyson pulled down 12 rebounds.

Pike Lib 62 Kinston 35

The Kinston Bulldogs struggled to find the goal in a 62-35 loss to the Pike Lib Patriots. Michael Thompson scored 14 points and Colby Tew added 12 to lead the Bulldogs, while the Patriots were led by Sawyer Keck with 23 points.

Kinston 53 Northside Methodist 51

Kinston's CJ Lunsford scored at the buzzer to lift the Bulldogs to an exciting 53-51 win over Northside Methodist. Colby Tew scored 17 points to lead the Bulldogs, while Michael Thompson added 13 and Zane Martin scored 9. Braylen Clements scored 15 points and grabbed 15 rebounds to lead Northside Methodist.

Pleasant Home 61 Zion Chapel 60

The Zion Chapel Rebels watched as Pleasant Home hit two free throws with less than a second left on the clock in a 61-60 upset loss to the Eagles. Mason Stuart scored 21 points to lead Zion Chapel, while Slade Grantham added 17 and Jacob Chestnut scored 14. Dillon Purifoy scored 26 points to lead the Eagles.

Zion Chapel 63 Milton Central 55

The Brantley Bulldogs continued to add up the wins in early-season action with a 63-55 victory over Milton Central. Jayden Parks scored 26 points and Daylan Davis added 18 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lead the Bulldogs.

Zion Chapel 47 Wicksburg 43

The Zion Chapel Rebels had to fight for all four quarters to claim a big 47-43 win over the Wicksburg Panthers. Jacob Chestnut scored 17 points, and hit four three-pointers in the second quarter, to lead the Rebels, while Slade Grantham added 15 points. Gabe Glover led Wicksburg with 24 points.

New Brockton 45 Pike Lib 34

The New Brockton Gamecocks got back in the win column with a solid 45-34 victory over the Pike Lib Patriots. Yassiah Rousseau scored 10 points to lead the Gamecocks, while Josiah Lewis added 9, and Anthony Silar and Keayon Kitton added 8 points, apiece. Will Rice

High School

HOOP HIGHLIGHTS

BOYS:

New Brockton 63 Goshen 45

led Pike Lib with 11 points.

GIRLS:

Brantley 45 Goshen 23

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs took command early and rolled to a 45-23 win over the Goshen Lady Eagles. Alex Grimes scored 11 points and pulled down 8 rebounds to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Myia Mount added 10 and 12 rebounds, and Mary Driggers added 8 points and 11 rebounds.

New Brockton 73 Goshen 16

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks made it look easy in a 73-16 win over the Goshen Lady Eagles. Ariana Smith scored 23 points to lead the Lady Gamecocks, while Aniya Barkley added 14 points and pulled down 11 rebounds. Gabby Eubanks added 13 points and Reese Eddins added 9 points and 5 assists.

Kinston 53 Pike Lib 5

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs rolled to a lopsided 53-5 win over the Lady Patriots from Pike Lib. Kaley Norris scored 28 points and drained five three-pointers in the win, while Candyn Norris and Magdalyn Martin both added 8 points, and Lauren Norris scored 7.

Geneva 59 Kinston 39

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs dropped a hard fought 59-39 decision to the Geneva Lady Panthers. Kaley Norris scored 26 points to lead Kinston, while Kaden Ward led Geneva with 22 points.

Wicksburg 44 Zion Chapel 6

The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels fell behind early and never recovered in a 44-6 loss to the Wicksburg Lady Panthers. Bella Sellers scored 18 points to lead Wicksburg, while Kelsey Ellenburg added 8 points.

New Brockton 66 Pike Lib 11

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks coasted to a lopsided 66-5 win over the Pike Lib Lady Patriots. Ariana Smith scored 19 points to lead New Brockton, while Casey Williams added 14 and Gabby Eubanks scored 11. Mary Holland Stephens scored 4 points to lead Pike Lib.

JV BOYS:

Kinston 36 Pike Lib 25

The Kinston Bulldogs put together a solid four quarter performance in a 36-25 win over the Pike Lib Patriots. Gabriel Hataway scored 14 points and Kolin Sims added 9 to lead the Bulldogs, while Jackson Bowen and Braden Shirley scored 6 points, apiece, for the Patriots.

New Brockton 34 Pike Lib 16

The New Brockton Gamecocks posted an impressive 34-16 win over the Pike Lib Patriots. David Harris scored 9 points and Kale McClelland added 6 to lead the Gamecocks, while Pike Lib was led by Jacob Bowen with 5 points.

LIFESTYLES

Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama reminds community of outreach opportunities

The Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama has a grant that is providing hams and staple food items to the Ma-Chis tribal elderly and veterans.

An appointment must be made to obtain the food. The Tribe will not be delivering food.

For veterans, please provide proof of status as a veteran.

Food cannot be picked up on Monday, Dec. 18, and Friday, Dec. 22; otherwise, send an email to machiscreeks@outlook.com or call (334) 897-3207 to make an appointment to come pick up the food items.

Also, for those that received a Keepseagle

settlement, there will be a meeting Monday, Dec. 18, at 9 a.m. Those who farmed can attend if interested in the current discrimination case against the USDA.

Keepseagle claimants should bring proof of receiving Keepseagle.

To receive any services from the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama, including payment of heating, cooling, replacement of water, electrical appliances (heater, stove, refrigerator, freezer), payment of water and septic bills, cleaning of septic tanks, and connecting to public water service, call (334) 897-3207 or email machiscreeks@outlook.com to receive an application.



The Elba Chamber of Commerce extended a "special thanks" to these soldiers from Fort Novosel for their assistance Monday evening, Dec. 4, with the Elba Christmas Parade lineup. The soldiers provided a great deal of assistance to the Chamber in ensuring the parade flowed easily for the enjoyment of all citizens of Elba. Chamber director Sandy Williams said Elba's good-working partnership with Fort Novosel and its soldiers is a valuable asset to the City of Elba. The soldiers that assisted with the Elba Christmas Parade were (from left): SGT Annabelle Graham, SSG Prezel Hardy Jr., CPT Joseph Pabst, SGT Omar Merriweather, PFC Dylan Tullis, PFC Kile Hussey, SPC Jack Laidig, and PFC Bryan Piper.

Coffee County BOE votes to move forward with projects

The Coffee County Board of Education met Thursday evening, Dec. 7, and voted during the meeting to move forward with several construction projects at the schools.

Possibly the largest of the projects the board voted to move forward on included approving the low bid for the Zion Chapel Baseball/Softball Facility project. This project will bring approximately \$3 million worth of improvements to that facility.

The project will include construction of a new con-

cessions area, restrooms, batting cages and storage facility. The project is anticipated to get underway early 2024.

Board members also approved a low bid for a new 20-ton HVAC package unit for the New Brockton High School cafeteria.

Also, upon recommendation of Superintendent Cindy Cobb, board members voted to bid two additional projects. These included bidding locker room renovations at New Brockton High School, and a facility project at Kinston. The facility

project could include implementing a storm shelter for Kinston School.

The board's approval to move forward with the bid process allows architects to come up with specifications for each project for contractors to bid on each.

After advertising and opening of bids, the board will have an opportunity to approve or reject the bids on these projects.

Several personnel matters were approved by board members, these included:

- Grant leave for Annsey Renfroe, teacher at Kinston [leave set to begin Feb. 1 and continue through March 22, tentatively];

- Employ Lori Hilburn, teacher at Zion Chapel, on a TEAMS Contract;

- Grant leave for Tim Bedsole, custodian at Kinston [leave set to begin Dec. 14 and continue through Jan. 16, tentatively];

- Grant leave for Amanda Chinn, CNP worker at New Brockton High School [leave Dec. 1 – Dec. 15, tentatively]; and

- Employ Shelby German as a Pre-K Auxiliary Aide for Zion Chapel School.

Board members approved their schedule of meetings for 2024.

Grills, Fryers, Griddles...
The Brands You're Shopping For
are at Williams Auto Parts!!
Cajun Fryer
GMG Green Mountain Pellet Grills
BLACKSTONE GRIDDLES
Williams Auto Parts
405 Davis Street
Elba, AL
(334) 897-2231 | 1161 Geneva Hwy
Enterprise, AL
(334) 417-0237

The Grantham Agency
603 N. Claxton Ave., Elba, AL
Serving ALL Your Insurance Needs

- Home
- Auto
- Mobile Home
- Motorcycle
- Business
- Life
- RV
- Boat

Our Office and Drive-Thru are Open to Serve Our Customers!!
Call or Come See Us for a Quote!!
(334) 897-2981



The Elba High School Class of 1966 gathered for breakfast at The Outpost in New Brockton Tuesday, Dec. 12, and enjoyed a morning of good food, fun, and fellowship. Those present included (left to right): Jerry Brown, Judy Galimore Brown, Eddie Thompson, Terry Calhoun, Kenneth Baker, Jerome Blackmon, Jackey Tindol, Sara Warr Strong, David Blackmon, Bobby Edmondson, John Lawless, Jeanette Hutto, and Neal Hutto holding Gizzy.

Christmas in the Village set for Dec. 16th in Elba

CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE will be held on Saturday, December 16, at Morrow Village, Jones Circle, Elba, AL. The event will begin at 1:00 P.M. and continue to 5:00 P.M.

This event is sponsored by the Elba Housing Authority, MsHumblePie.

Cookies With Santa!
Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023
10:00 a.m.
Cost: \$20.00 (\$5 for each additional child per family)
Includes: Picture with Santa,
Two Cookies to Decorate, and a
Bag of Baked Goodies to leave for
Santa on Christmas Eve
(or just to eat!)
Mrs. Linda & J
Call to Pre-Register
(334) 282-6684
332 Simmons St.,
Elba, AL 36323

Christmas Sale
Storewide Discounts
Up to 60% off!
Jewel Box
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
10:00 - 5:00
Wed. 12/20 & Sat. 12/23
10:00 - 2:00



Enhancing the lineup of services offered by our team at BWBA, Brian brings experience in accounting, financial and tax planning, financial reporting, insurance regulatory and M&A, along with treasury, capital, investment risk, and operations management. Brian is a graduate of Troy University and holds master's degrees from The College for Financial Planning (Financial Analysis) and Florida State University (Risk Management). Brian most recently wrapped up a long tenure with The National Security Group, Inc. in Elba where he served as chief financial and operations officer.

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE
THAT
BRIAN R. MCLEOD, CPA, CGMA
HAS JOINED THE FIRM
AS A PARTNER

**BRUNSON, WILKERSON,
BOWDEN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.**
Certified Public Accountants • Consultants

529 BOLL WEEVIL CIRCLE
ENTERPRISE, AL 36330
(334)347-9509
www.bwb.cpa

PARTNERS:
JOHN O. BOWDEN, CPA
MISTY K. TINDOL, CPA
JACKIE L. SMITH, CPA
STEVEN G. SMITH, CPA
BRIAN R. MCLEOD, CPA, CGMA
RETIRED:
HERBERT A. BARR, CPA
T. WINSTON BRUNSON, CPA
WALTER P. WILKERSON, CPA
AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF BDO ALLIANCE USA